

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application, with claims 10, 13, and 18-20 withdrawn from consideration. The applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 14-17 and for acknowledging the allowable subject matter of claims 7-9.

Claim Objections and Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

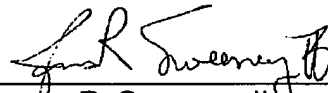
The informalities of claims 3, 4 and 11 have been corrected.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

Claims 1-4 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,555,960 to Bartsch. Claim 1 has been amended consistent with the allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claims 5, 6, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartsch in view of admitted prior art. The amendment to claim 1 is thought to render the obviousness rejection moot. Claims 1-9, and 11-12 are thought to be in condition for allowance.. Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-9 and 11-12 be allowed, as have been claims 14-17.

This response is thought to be timely, and no fees are thought to be due; however, any extensions to make this response timely are now requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be due, other than issue fees, to Deposit Account 10-0435, with reference to matter number 2835-71459. The Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss any unresolved matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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